

In Memoriam



Officer Greenly

OFFICER SCOTT GREENLY

San Jose
January 7, 1998

Officer Scott Greenly made an enforcement stop at 5 p.m. on State Route 85. Although he was a motorcycle officer, he drove a patrol car that day because it was raining. In accordance with CHP policy, he approached the car from the passenger side so he was away from moving traffic. Greenly had given the driver a verbal warning and started back to his car when he was struck by a speeding vehicle which ran off the roadway onto the raised freeway embankment. The careening vehicle dragged Officer Greenly for some distance before the officer was dislodged. He died from his injuries while being treated by medical personnel. The 32-year-old Greenly was a three-year member of the CHP who had been assigned to the San Jose Area office directly from the Academy. He completed the CHP Motorcycle Training Course in August 1997. The defendant is in custody and facing trial in Santa Clara County Superior Court.



Officer Irvine



Officer Stovall

OFFICERS BRITT IRVINE & RICK STOVALL

Santa Barbara County
February 25, 1998

Officers Britt Irvine and Rick Stovall were traveling east from Santa Maria on State Route 166 the last time the dispatcher heard from them. It was 2:45 a.m. and they were responding to a possible truck-tractor accident. Alongside the road, the Cuyama River raged, swollen from heavy winter rains. Unknown to them, the torrent had undermined 300 feet of pavement, dropping it 20 feet into the water below. Dispatch lost contact. Allied agencies began a search for them, but the darkness and fog hampered their efforts. About 8 a.m. a CHP helicopter spotted the car upside down and buried in a sand bar with only the tip of a wheel visible. Rescue workers struggled until late that evening before they were able to free the car. The bodies of Officers Irvine and Stovall were inside, still buckled in their safety belts. Officer Irvine, 40, graduated from the Academy in 1983. Before his assignment to the Santa Maria Area in 1990, he served in El Centro, San Jose and Marin Areas. Officer Stovall, 39, son of retired CHP Officer Bill Stovall, graduated from the Academy in 1980. He served in West Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Crescent City and San Luis Obispo before his assignment to Santa Maria in 1991.



Officer Lydon

OFFICER CHRISTOPHER LYDON

El Cajon
June 5, 1998

Officer Christopher D. Lydon got a call from dispatch at 12:25 a.m. regarding a possible drunken driver being followed by an off-duty police officer who relayed information via cell phone. Lydon and his partner, Officer Jeffrey Jenkins, drove south on State Route 67 to intercept the northbound suspect. As Officer Lydon rounded a curve, his vehicle spun out of control. It vaulted off the freeway edge, overturned and struck a tree. Dispatch lost radio contact with the officers, but began getting cellular 911 calls about a solo collision involving a CHP patrol car. Rescue workers were unable to revive Lydon at the scene. Officer Jenkins was cut and bruised and suffered a separated shoulder. Lydon, 27, was a Marine Corps veteran who served in Operation Desert Storm. He graduated from the Academy in 1996 and recently had transferred to El Cajon after his first assignment in the Central Los Angeles Area. The impaired driver subsequently was arrested and pleaded guilty to an alcohol-related offense.



FELLOW OFFICERS (top photo) carry the casket of Officer Christopher Lydon, place a rose on the casket of Officer Scott Greenly and provide an honor guard at the memorial service of Officers Britt Irvine and Rick Stovall.

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